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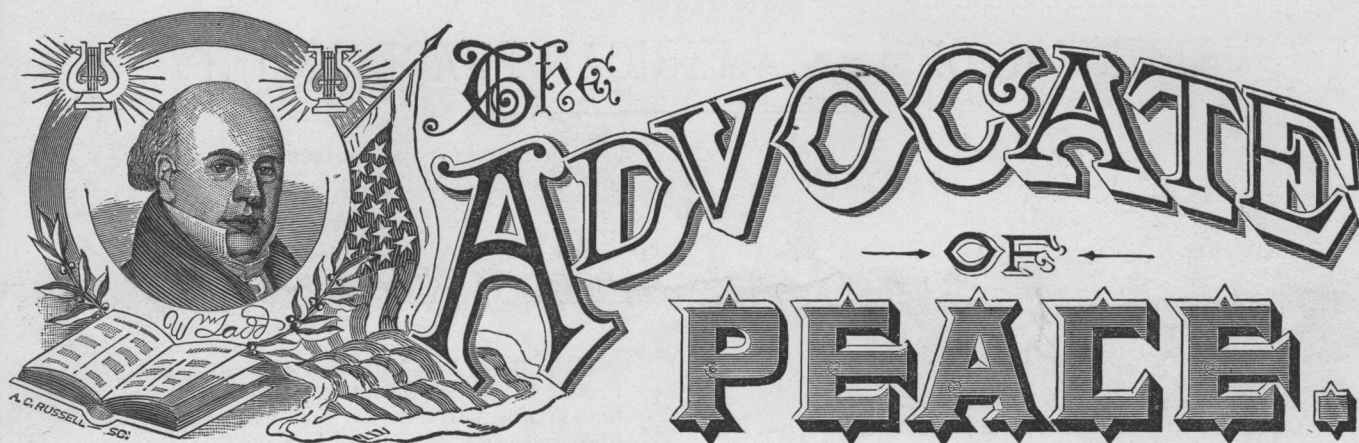
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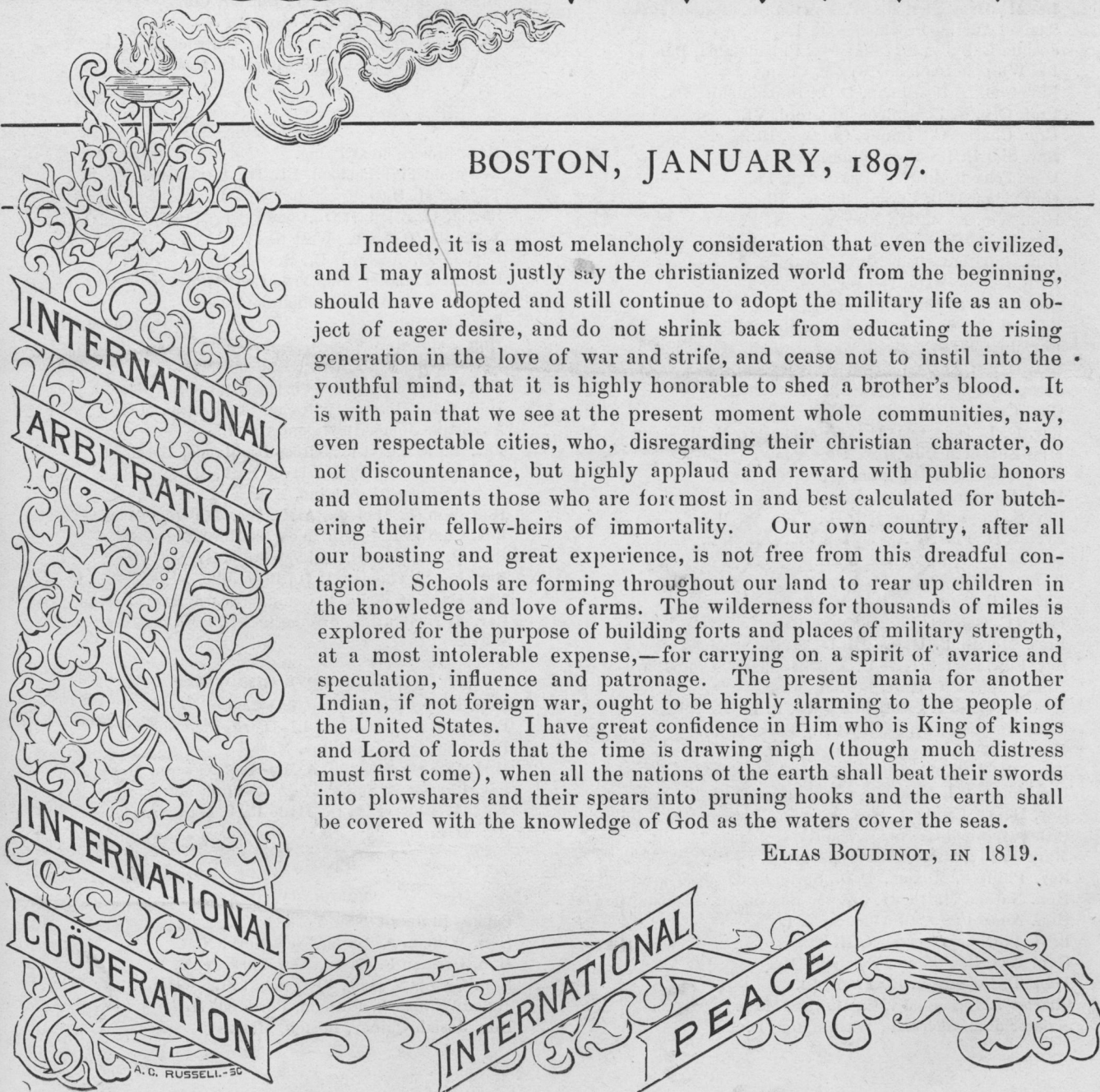
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BOSTON, JANUARY, 1897.

Indeed, it is a most melancholy consideration that even the civilized, and I may almost justly say the christianized world from the beginning, should have adopted and still continue to adopt the military life as an object of eager desire, and do not shrink back from educating the rising generation in the love of war and strife, and cease not to instil into the youthful mind, that it is highly honorable to shed a brother's blood. It is with pain that we see at the present moment whole communities, nay, even respectable cities, who, disregarding their christian character, do not discountenance, but highly applaud and reward with public honors and emoluments those who are foremost in and best calculated for butchering their fellow-heirs of immortality. Our own country, after all our boasting and great experience, is not free from this dreadful contagion. Schools are forming throughout our land to rear up children in the knowledge and love of arms. The wilderness for thousands of miles is explored for the purpose of building forts and places of military strength, at a most intolerable expense,—for carrying on a spirit of avarice and speculation, influence and patronage. The present mania for another Indian, if not foreign war, ought to be highly alarming to the people of the United States. I have great confidence in Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords that the time is drawing nigh (though much distress must first come), when all the nations of the earth shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and the earth shall be covered with the knowledge of God as the waters cover the seas.

ELIAS BOUDINOT, IN 1819.



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ARTICLE I. This Society shall be designated the "AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY."

ART. II. This Society, being founded on the principle that all war is contrary to the spirit of the gospel, shall have for its object to illustrate the inconsistency of war with Christianity, to show its baleful influence on all the great interests of mankind, and to devise means for insuring universal and permanent peace.

ART. III. Persons of every Christian denomination desirous of promoting peace on earth, and good-will towards men, may become members of this Society.

ART. IV. Every annual subscriber of two dollars shall be a member of this Society.

ART. V. The payment of twenty dollars at one time shall constitute any person a Life-member.

ART. VI. The chairman of each corresponding committee, the officers and delegates of every auxiliary contributing to the funds of this Society, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in

behalf of the cause, shall be entitled to the privileges of regular members.

ART. VII. All contributors shall be entitled within the year to one-half the amount of their contributions in the publications of the Society.

ART. VIII. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor and a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than twenty members of the Society, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio members of the Board. All Officers shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed, and the Board of Directors shall have power to fill vacancies in any office of the Society. There shall be an Executive Committee of seven, consisting of the President, Secretary and five Directors to be chosen by the Board, which Committee shall, subject to the Board of Directors, have the entire control of the executive and financial affairs of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee may be called by the President, the Secretary or two members of such body. The Society or the Board of Directors may invite persons of well known legal ability to act as Honorary Counsel.

ART. IX. The Society shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, to receive their own and the Treasurer's report, to choose officers, and transact such other business as may come before them.

ART. X. The object of this Society shall never be changed; but the constitution may in other respects be altered, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, or of any ten members of the Society, by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting.

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THE NEW YEAR.

The year just closed has been remarkable for international disturbances and complications in many parts of the world. Armenia, Cuba, Venezuela, the Transvaal, Trinidad, Abyssinia, the Soudan, Matabeleland, the Philippines, Zanzibar,—it is only necessary to mention these names to stir up the memory of bloodshed and cruelty, of military disaster or triumph, of rumors of great war, of delicate and puzzling diplomatic proceedings, of excitement and anxiety,—of which the year has been so full. All the great powers of the world, in addition to many smaller ones, have been involved seriously in these disturbances. In an unusual manner, it has been a year of world-disturbance. At times a tremendous conflict of arms has seemed unavoidable. Military extension, with

its growing burdens, has gone steadily on in Europe, and in naval development our own country has been unusually active.

On the other hand, the year has witnessed much indicating the steady and accelerated progress of peace, and giving promise of its early triumph. The Venezuelan excitement, with which the year began, has all been allayed and the three countries involved are now on excellent terms. Great Britain and Brazil have settled the Trinidad affair in a most commendable way. The Jameson incident has been disposed of in a way that indicates a greater disposition in England to be just in her colonial policy. A treaty of peace has closed the conflict between Italy and Abyssinia, and the peace party in Italy have showed such strength as will probably prevent any such conflict in the future. The Greater Republic of Central America has been formed, a step clearly in the interests of peace. Colombia and Costa Rico, Chile and Bolivia, Italy and Brazil, Great Britain and Colombia, Great Britain and Holland, Chile and Argentina, France and Brazil, Hayti and San Domingo, have settled or agreed to settle differences by arbitration. The United States and Great Britain are just on the point of the creation of a general treaty and court of arbitration. The peace movement represented by the peace societies, the Peace Congress, the Interparliamentary Union, and various national and special arbitration conferences, has never developed so much strength and influence as during the past year.

Will the New Year be one of peace? It is difficult to say. The Armenian plague spot remains, with few signs of improvement. The deplorable condition in Cuba continues and it is not possible to see the end. There are jealousies and strained relations between nations that bode no good. But we have much to make us believe that the sky will gradually clear and the outlook become brighter as the year goes forward. It is no time, however, to relax effort. Every friend of peace must be at his post all the year round. The cause has only just begun its great triumphs. It will prevail if by faith in God and ceaseless devotion to duty we make it prevail. We ask continued sympathy and co-operation not only